

THIRD EDITION



HISTORICAL DICTIONARY OF

ZAMBIA

DAVID J. SIMON
JAMES R. PLETCHER
BRIAN V. SIEGEL

Historical Dictionary of Zambia

Third Edition

David J. Simon
James R. Pletcher
Brian V. Siegel

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Feira, Zambia. Portuguese traders operated from there as early as 1700. By 1752 they bought **ivory** and **copper** from Zambian peoples. By the beginning of the 19th century, **Lamba**, **Ambo**, and even **Toka** traders were traveling there. Items received in return included beads and Goan and Indian cloth. In 1804, Zumbo was destroyed by a neighboring chief, and the Portuguese abandoned it in 1836. In 1862 they reopened it for trade, mainly in ivory, but **slaves** also passed through en route to Brazil. Since the Portuguese government did not have much control at Zumbo, the traders were free to form their own armies. (See **CHIKUNDA**.) The **Bemba**, **Bisa**, and **Nsenga** all exchanged ivory for muzzle-loading guns. In 1888 the Nsenga chief **Mburuma** laid siege to Zumbo, but the Portuguese strengthened their forces there and appointed a governor in 1890. During the entire two centuries, Zambezi had a major role in the Portuguese gold trade, primarily from the people south of the Zambezi River.

ZWANGENDABA. An Nguni clan military leader who fled the power of his overlord, Shaka Zulu, after a battle on the Mhlatuze River in Natal in 1818. Fleeing north with his people through Swaziland and **Mozambique**, he collected a large following on his 30-year exodus. These **Ngoni**, as they came to be called, crossed the **Zambezi River** in 1835. They spent six years among the **Senga**, adding recruits, and then by-passed **Bemba** country, ending up near the Fipa people in the **Tanzanian** section of southern **Lake Tanganyika**. The Ngoni were nomadic herdsmen as well as excellent warriors who terrorized the farmers en route. Zwangendaba died at Ufipa in 1848 and the Ngoni moved south again into Zambia and **Malawi** under such leaders as **Mpezeni**, **Mperembe**, and **Mbelwa**.

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INTRODUCTION

What follows is an extensive—but by no means complete—list of published material pertaining to various aspects of Zambia. Both the list and the broader body of literature it represents are predominantly in the English language—somewhat naturally given that English is the official language of Zambia, and given its British colonial past. Some historical and contemporary work is in French, as well as Portuguese, but even the vast majority of work by authors from non-Anglophone countries is in English. Relatively little is published in local languages such as *ciBemba* and *ciNyanja*, save for limited amounts of fiction, poetry, and instructional materials.

Ever since David Livingstone's first descriptions of the territory north of the Zambezi River captivated British audiences, Zambia has appeared to have held some allure for Europeans: a place remote, exotic, and yet still conquerable. Hence, the historical literature abounds with first person narratives of exploration and early missionary work. In the middle of the 20th century, anthropologists must have found Zambia's ethnic diversity enticing, particularly with the backdrop of relatively rapid, copper-driven urbanization (or what was then termed modernization), all the better to contrast the "traditional" with the "modern." In more recent years, perhaps a variant of that strain has emerged once again. As economists put Zambia's poor economic record and difficult road ahead under the microscope, political scientists have examined the prospects for democracy amid unfavorable circumstances and an entrenched, undemocratic past. Meanwhile, a burgeoning literature examines effects of the AIDS epidemic, and the country's prospects for dealing with it. In each case, the basic facts present the specialist scholar with something of an extreme case, ideally suited for bringing to bear the cutting-edge theories and methods from within the respective fields, while the relatively safety and stability of the country itself make field research possible—even relatively easy compared to some of Zambia's more war-torn (or landmine-strewn) neighbors.

Work by non-Zambians outpaces that by Zambians by far—particularly book-length treatments of subjects published outside of the country itself. Indeed, prior to Zambian independence in 1964, there were scarcely any Zambia (or "African," to use the terminology of the day) authors to cite. Disparities in educational resources comprise the better